

reaching to the knees: the former is secured round the waist by a narrow girdle, attached to which, on the right side, are an ink-horn and pen-case. He has the clerical tonsure, and a pen appears behind his right ear. He wears tight hose, and low square-toed shoes. Over his head is a scroll, charged with the words—

"In Virgine posui spem meam ;"

And beneath a shield bearing, gules, a lion passant.

The whole is surmounted with the following legend :—

"Hic jacet Mag^r Bernardin^us de Turia dñi vixit nota pub. et scriba Curie Tornacensis precipuus fidator eboral^{is} et augmētator lucri dñor Instalator hui^{us} ecclie qui obiit à dñi avavii."

This forms the centre-piece of a very fine brass; but, being pressed for time, I was unable to finish it: I shall, however, engrave the whole in a work on the Brasses and Inscribed Slabs of Belgium, which it is my intention to publish early next year.

W. H. WEALE.

PICKED UP AT BRIGHTON.

THE extension of Brighton on the high ground, from the old church towards the Dyke-road, though less obvious to the visitor than what has been done next the sea, is very considerable, and would surprise those who know the town only as it was some years ago. There is a quaint little house some distance on the Dyke-road, called Port Hall, full of "knick-knackett things," the residence of one of the most ingenious men in the county,—Sir Page Dick;* and we well remember this, the scene of many pleasant days in early life, a good walk out of the town, and with little apparent chance of a neighbourhood. Gradually, however, the houses have crept along the highway; new roads have been opened; occupants have come; and, in a very short time, if the process continue, we shall find Port Hall in the midst of a row of houses. A new church is building close by, and will further expedite this result. This is a large structure of flint, with Caen stone dressings. It is to consist of chancel, nave, and aisles, with a tower at the west end of the north aisle. The style, almost as a matter of course, now-a-days, is Decorated. The windows of the aisles, as well as those of the chancel, are in, and the walls up ready for the aisle roofs. The main pillars of the nave are not yet commenced. The tower is of large size; placed where it is, the foundation for it must have been looked for at some depth and cost. Mr. Carpenter is the architect; the dedication is to All Saints.

The last new church built in Brighton, St. Paul's, was to be consecrated on the 18th. It is built of flint and Caen stone, and has presented the phenomenon of a church requiring repair before it was consecrated. A considerable quantity of the stone used failed, and has been taken out and reinstated: what remained, as well as the new stones, have been oiled. It would be useful to ascertain the cause of the failure,—whether the stones were marked by the merchant as from the sound beds and fit for external work; if they were laid bed-way; or were wetted by the sea. Information of this sort would assist in arriving at some degree of certainty with respect to the material; and it is only with this end in view, and not from any desire to annoy individuals who may be blameless, that we mention the circumstance.

St. Paul's Church is lighted by cornice bearing candles. Some excellent stained-glass windows, by Hardman, have been put up in the chancel within the last week,—the gift, as Mr. Wagner stated in his sermon last Sunday, of benevolent individuals. The east window, a "Jesse," is very large, and must have cost a considerable sum of money. Four smaller windows contain the Apostles,—three in each. The painted decorations of the chancel are not satisfactory, the effect being mean. There is an oak rood-screen. The "Commandments" are placed at the east end of the south aisle.

None of our readers should go to Brighton without visiting the two churches at Shoreham,—old and new. The latter, New Shoreham Church, is full of interest to the student, exhibiting the passage from the Norman style to the Early English. It was originally a cross church of large size, but the nave has been destroyed, so that it now consists of transepts and chancel only, with central tower; the chancel has aisles, the walls of which show an interesting Norman arcade.

When we entered the church we saw a sign of the times in a bery of pretty long-ringletted damsels squatting on the floor in the centre of the building; and it was not till we heard—"Rosa, dear, give me some more heel-ball,"—"Now, Emma, you begin at his legs,"—that we comprehended their position. They were rubbing with much gusto the only two brasses which remain there,—the figures of a civilian and his wife, without any inscription, but which may apparently be dated about 1450.

Old Shoreham Church, also a Norman building, was restored some time since; and Southwick Church (which has a Norman tower, with Early English belfry story and short spire), has been miserably treated by rebuilders.

DEATH IN THE SEWERS.

THE sudden destruction of five fellow-beings by those deadly poisons which pervade the atmosphere of imperfect sewers and drains and emanate from them in diffusion, by the law of gaseous mixture and dilution, through the streets and dwellings of a district, is certainly an appalling occurrence, and at Pimlico such a fatality has just been exciting the sympathy and horror of thousands. But painful as it is, the suddenness and the hot too obviously and totally unmistakeable and undeniable nature of the cause—a cause to be in this case neither mystified nor pooh-poohed—can alone, by inference, excuse, since they cannot justify, the want of such a concentration of excitement and feeling—sustained and never ceasing, as it ought to be—for the thousands and the tens of thousands who are ever—and though more slowly, not more surely—being doomed to death, by the self-same cause, in every imperfectly or improperly sewered and drained street-district, town, or city. Could the mere matter-of-fact mind of the public in general but trace that cause, and forcibly realize it, through all its stages and degrees of still pernicious dilution, from the concentrated state in which it strikes its victim down as if by lightning, to those states of less or more dilution in which it can only effect its deadly purpose in the course of minutes, hours, or days,—or even months or years, in a gradual and constant undermining of the strongest constitution,—such is our estimation of the public feeling, apart altogether from its more self-seeking fears and interests, that we believe, the truly vital question of the sewerage of towns, would utterly absorb and annihilate every other question of worldly interest, till the work were done, and that effectively, and on the most improved and enlightened principles that money could either call forth in design or realize in detail. It is simply because the evil agency is gradually lost to the public sense and mind in the distance, as it were, of its successive stages of dilution, that it is still allowed to dispense its subtle deadly venom through the otherwise beathful atmosphere.

In the case at Pimlico, a "junction reversed" had been run off through Kenilworth-street, which is at right angles to Warwick-street. This junction, or branch sewer, was imperfect, or rather, it only reached as far as the new tenements were erected, and there it abruptly stopped, as a butt-end, in fact, although its continuation for a few hundred yards, as observed by the *Times*, would have brought it to the Thames. "Like most of the sewers of that district," the "branch" and "main" are very nearly on a dead level, so that the filth in the "branch" had quietly accumulated for two years, till now that it was four feet deep throughout. The main was also foul, and as were other adjoining sewers. They were all examined and ordered to be cleared out, and the process of contract-measurement was in progress, on

Friday last, at five a.m., when the party, three in number, entered the Kenilworth-street sewer, although cautioned previously not to do so. Not re-appearing till afternoon, a man-hole in the main was opened, and some labourers entered, and saw the party all lying in the branch apparently dead. The end of the branch, which had been bricked up, was then broken open, and other three persons, one a surgeon and another a policeman, immediately entered, and in two minutes the latter re-appeared with the body of the former, who had been struck dead instantaneously. Returning, he also brought out his other companion, insensible, but not dead. A third time this poor fellow re-entered, to bring out the dead bodies first sacrificed, and was himself at length struck dead, and his body not got out till some hours after. Precautions, then only, were taken; and next morning the three first corpses,—discoloured and blue, as if killed by cholera,—were got out. An inquest, at which these facts were elicited, was then held, and has been adjourned till to-day (Thursday).

There are "a thousand or two," it appears, of such "butt-ends" as those in Kenilworth-street among the metropolitan sewers, and the necessity of caution in such cases is well known, so that the occurrence of a succession of fatalities like the present appears to be the more extraordinary, and might have been avoided by the adoption of the usual precautions, or of the means taken to remove the gaseous sewage, and to ventilate the sewer itself, in Friar-street, where the late explosion occurred,—namely, Gurney's high-pressure steam-jet, by which coal mines, as our readers will remember, have been successfully ventilated. In this case, too, the poisonous compounds might have been destroyed on the spot. At Friar-street this process enabled the officers to clear out at least 500 tons of foul matter.

A correspondent (T. H.) suggests,—that a dress and helmet, &c., similar to what a diver uses at the Polytechnic Institution for example, might be adopted effectively for examination of sewers. "The suggestion advanced may not be of any immediate use to those who have to travel any distance along the sewers, but that help may be afforded in case of need, and thereby preventing further loss of life. Every police office in the metropolis ought to be furnished with a dress and apparatus complete; the expense would be nominal, considering the amount raised by sewer rates."

PARKS FOR THE PEOPLE.

HAVING observed an extract from THE BUILDER, extensively quoted in the daily prints, remarking upon Copenhagen-fields as a fit place for a public park, I forward a copy of a letter which I wrote to Lord Morpeth, who acknowledged it, expressing his readiness to follow its recommendation in every manner that came before him, but that want of funds was the usual obstacle.—J. W. HALL.

The following is a portion of the letter referred to:—

"Without being unmindful of what has been done, and the great attention shown by your lordship and the other commissioners to the health of the people, by regard to important measures in their behalf; additional steps are needed, absolutely and incontestably needed, on the ground of common humanity and sympathy with a pent-up population, hankering after fresh air and green sod or leaves in a hot and oppressive summer season, when thousands of the people in the internal parts of the metropolis find it intolerable to dwell pent up in heat and unwholesomeness, and seek the shortest routes to the nearest open spots or green places;—even an open alehouse court, where there may be a green shrub or a green seat, is eagerly sought for, and occupied with avidity by many of the thousands of women, children, and infirm persons who cannot reach the parks at the extreme ends of London.

It appears that formerly reservations were made for the benefit of the people, for sundry greens were formed, such as Clerkenwell, Islington, Newington, Stepney, and Camberwell greens, and others. It is to be hoped that if

* The ancestor of Sir Page Dick advanced a large sum of money in 1699-41 for securing the Established Church of Scotland, suppressing a rebellion in Ireland, &c.; and, though guaranteed, as he thought, by Princes and Commons, was never able to recover it, and died in poverty. An undeniable and very interesting case has been made out by the present baronet, who is making efforts to obtain a restitution of money most justly due to him.